

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A digital camera with which a recording medium is connectable, the digital camera comprising:

5 first means for deciding whether a connected recording medium is of a first type into and from which data can be written and erased a plurality of times or a second type into which data can be written only once;

a recording switch arrangement having a first-stage switch and a second-stage switch;

10 second means for writing still-picture data into the connected recording medium when the first-stage switch is actuated in cases where the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the first type;

third means for capturing data representative of a still picture and
15 indicating the still picture represented by the captured data as a preview picture when the first-stage switch is actuated in cases where the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type; and

fourth means for writing the captured data into the connected
20 recording medium when the second-stage switch is actuated in cases where the first-stage switch remains actuated and the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type.

2. A digital camera as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

25 fifth means for detecting an amount of charges remaining in a battery;

sixth means for deciding whether or not the amount detected by the fifth means is greater than a threshold value;

seventh means for inhibiting the second means and the third means from responding to actuation of the first-stage switch and for giving a warning to a user in cases where the sixth means decides that the detected amount is not greater than the threshold value;

5 eighth means for setting the threshold value to a first value when the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the first type; and

ninth means for setting the threshold value to a second value greater than the first value when the first means decides that the connected
10 recording medium is of the second type.

3. A digital camera as recited in claim 1, further comprising an imager for sequentially taking pictures, and fifth means for automatically controlling a focus and an exposure with respect to the pictures taken by
15 the imager independent of an operating condition of the recording switch arrangement.

4. A digital camera as recited in claim 1, further comprising fifth means for indicating, to a user, functions disabled with respect to a recording
20 medium of the second type and enabled with respect to a recording medium of the first type.

5. A digital camera with which a recording medium is connectable, the digital camera comprising:

25 first means for deciding whether a connected recording medium is of a first type into and from which data can be written and erased a plurality of times or a second type into which data can be written only once;

a button being movable among an undepressed position, a first

depressed position, and a second depressed position, and passing through the first depressed position as moving from the undepressed position to the second depressed position;

second means for writing first still-picture data into the connected
5 recording medium when the button is moved from the undepressed position to the first depressed position in cases where the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the first type;

third means for indicating a still picture represented by second
still-picture data as a preview picture when the button is moved from the
10 undepressed position to the first depressed position in cases where the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type;
and

fourth means for writing the second still-picture data into the
connected recording medium when the button is further moved from the
15 first depressed position to the second depressed position in cases where the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type.

6. A digital camera as recited in claim 5, further comprising:

20 fifth means for detecting an amount of charges remaining in a battery;

sixth means for deciding whether or not the amount detected by the fifth means is greater than a threshold value;

seventh means for inhibiting the second means and the fourth
25 means from writing the first still-picture data and the second still-picture data into the connected recording medium and for giving a warning in cases where the sixth means decides that the detected amount is not greater than the threshold value;

eight means for setting the threshold value to a first value when the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the first type; and

ninth means for setting the threshold value to a second value greater
5 than the first value when the first means decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type.

7. A digital camera as recited in claim 5, further comprising an imager for sequentially taking pictures, and fifth means for automatically
10 controlling a focus and an exposure with respect to the pictures taken by the imager independent of the position of the button.

8. A digital camera as recited in claim 5, further comprising fifth means for indicating functions disabled with respect to a recording medium of the
15 second type and enabled with respect to a recording medium of the first type.

9. A digital camera with which a recording medium is connectable, the digital camera comprising:

20 a first device deciding whether a connected recording medium is of a first type into and from which data can be written and erased a plurality of times or a second type into which data can be written only once;

a recording switch arrangement having a first-stage switch and a second-stage switch;

25 a data writer writing still-picture data into the connected recording medium when the first-stage switch is actuated in cases where the first device decides that the connected recording medium is of the first type; and

a second device capturing data representative of a still picture and

indicating the still picture represented by the captured data as a preview picture when the first-stage switch is actuated in cases where the first device decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type; the data writer writing the captured data into the connected

5 recording medium when the second-stage switch is actuated in cases where the first-stage switch remains actuated and the first device decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type.

10. A digital camera with which a recording medium is connectable, the
10 digital camera comprising:

a first device deciding whether a connected recording medium is of a first type into and from which data can be written and erased a plurality of times or a second type into which data can be written only once;

a button being movable among an undepressed position, a first
15 depressed position, and a second depressed position, and passing through the first depressed position as moving from the undepressed position to the second depressed position;

a data writer writing first still-picture data into the connected recording medium when the button is moved from the undepressed position
20 to the first depressed position in cases where the first device decides that the connected recording medium is of the first type; and

a second device indicating a still picture represented by second still-picture data as a preview picture when the button is moved from the undepressed position to the first depressed position in cases where the first
25 device decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type;

the data writer writing the second still-picture data into the connected recording medium when the button is further moved from the first depressed position to the second depressed position in cases where the

first device decides that the connected recording medium is of the second type.